



## State of Connecticut

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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**MEMBER**  
COMMERCE COMMITTEE  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

March 22, 2013

To Co-Chairs Senator Coleman and Representative Fox, Vice-Chairs Senator Doyle and Representative Ritter, Ranking Members Senator Kissel and Representative Rebimbas, and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee,

I would like to express my strong support for S.B. No. 123, AN ACT REPEALING THE RISK REDUCTION CREDIT PROGRAM.

Like so many people I have talked to over the course of the last year, I stand opposed to the so-called "Risk Reduction Credit" program that gives inmates convicted of violent crimes a path to early release from prison.

For me, there were simply too many questions surrounding this program at the height of the brief but intense debate about it—questions that continued after the program was installed, questions that grew louder when two men who earned early release credits were accused in unrelated shootings in different parts of the state.

My parents taught me that I was accountable for my actions. It's a message that many parents teach today, and it's one they expect their government to follow.

In my opinion, this program stands opposite of this basic expectation. Even worse, there is evidence that these credits awarded to violent criminals for little more than good behavior jeopardize the safety of Connecticut residents.

I urge you to support this piece of legislation. I thank the committee for their time and attention into this matter, and I would be happy to answer any questions.

Lezlye Zupkus  
State Representative  
89<sup>th</sup> Assembly District